

August 20, 2007

Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)

Platt Family Ranch, LLC
Platt Family Ranch, Eroding Bank Creek Repair Project
Sonoma County (WDID# 1B07062WNSO)

On May 7, 2007, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Sonoma County Regional Parks requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Platt Family Ranch, Eroding Bank Creek Repair Project located in Sonoma County. The proposed project causes permanent impacts to 0.4 acres of ephemeral stream draining to Salmon Creek within the Bodega Hydrologic Sub Unit No. 115.10.

The proposed project is located west of Sebastopol and just east of the town of Bodega, Sonoma County, California, (APN. No. 026-120-016). The latitude and longitude is 38.37835°N and -122.90040°W. The purpose of the project is to restore eroding, unstable creek banks and prevent a failure of an access road. The damage in the creek along the access road on the Platt property is a result of channel incision and a resulting over steepening of the creek banks. Slumping bank failures are now occurring as a result of the continuing erosion.

The proposed project will stabilize three areas on an unnamed stream tributary to Salmon Creek. The stream stabilization consists of a graded stone armor to raise the invert of the creek to provide toe support to the slumping banks and then some additional stone materials up the bank to prevent further erosion. The amount of material placed below the high water elevation will be approximately 1,130 cubic yards with a surface area of approximately 11,400 square feet. Overall the design consists of two concepts. The first is to raise the channel bed to support the slumping banks from future failures. Next is to protect both banks up high enough to prevent further erosion on both sides of the channel. Stone materials would be placed on existing bed and banks without any excavation or clearing. The stone materials shall be placed such that it shall not impede normal flows. The stone materials would be well-graded with sizes ranging from a maximum of 12-inches down to sand and gravel sizes. Existing bank and channel vegetation will be saved to the maximum amount possible. Redirecting the flow of the creek may be necessary at two locations to de-water the project sites during installation of the rock armor. During construction, energy dissipaters will be installed down stream of both locations to prevent channel scouring. In addition, wattles will be installed with filter fabric to capture any sediments that may occur during construction. All stone/gravel/sand materials added to the stream shall be completely clean and washed and shall not contribute any turbidity to the stream.

Compensatory mitigation will be the replacement of riparian habitat lost due to storm damage, and lost through disturbance by this project. A native stock of willows (Arroyo willows will not be used) will be obtained from onsite cuttings, and will provide soil

stability in addition to riparian cover for the channel. Willow cuttings will be planted in the disturbed areas on 3-foot centers. Other areas may also require additional plantings and will be determined in the field. A five year monitoring plan will be implemented with an 85% survival rate of all proposed plant species. Additionally, a native seed mix will be spread on all exposed soils, and erosion control fabric will be used on slopes greater than 3:1. Yearly monitoring and reporting will be required for a minimum of 5 years, and until the project is deemed stable and established.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the final project plans in order to reduce and control soil erosion. All construction in and around waters of the state will be conducted during the dry season (April 15th to October 15th), to minimize construction related impacts to hydrology and water quality.

The Platt Family Ranch Eroding Bank Creek Repair Project is scheduled to begin in summer and end in Fall 2007. Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653, or at sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov, or Darren Bradford at (707) 576-2466, dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov, within 21 days of posting of this notice.

This is a brief summary of this project; all related documents and comments received are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Blvd., Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.